



**Prevent Child Abuse
Idaho**

a provisional chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America

PREVENTION

Idaho Children's Trust Fund Newsletter

You Say "Goodbye"...

Nancy Hausner Leaves After Five Years at the Helm of the Idaho Children's Trust Fund



At a conference I attended last fall, I listened to a very wise person say that all leaders of organizations should periodically ask themselves the question, "Am I still the right person to lead this organization?" Since I, like most people, had always asked myself, "Is this still the right organization for me?" this new question really made me think! I spent the next few months grappling with that simple question—am I still the right person to lead the Idaho Children's Trust Fund?

I loved my job as the executive director of the ICTF / PCAL. My co-worker, Margaret Hower, and I had a wonderful working relationship, complementing each other with our skills and talents. Our board was the finest I had ever worked with, and I relied on our members' wise and encouraging counsel. Together, Margaret, the board and I accomplished a great deal of work that strengthened the infrastructure of the organization, improved the granting process, and developed supportive and reciprocal relationships with many stakeholders throughout the state during my five year tenure. There were many exciting projects on the horizon, including becoming the Idaho chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America, the Strengthening Families Through Early Care and Education program, and my pet project, educating adults to prevent child sexual abuse.

So why did that question keep nagging at me? I believe that once I was able to get past my own ego, I knew in my heart that it was time for me to go. Since a part of my heart will always remain with the Idaho Children's Trust Fund, I am very glad that the board found and hired Roger Sherman as executive director. While there are many leaders out there who would be able to learn the organization, and continue the relationships and grow and improve the work of the ICTF, there are not many with the heart for the mission of working together to prevent the abuse of children in our state. Roger has the heart, the leadership abilities, and the best Grants Manager out there, so I know he will be very successful.

Thank you to all the members of the board I worked with over the years, the executive directors who came before me, the grantees who do the really hard work, Margaret Hower, and all the incredible organizations, agencies and individuals who partnered with, encouraged, and supported our work with the Idaho Children's Trust Fund.

...And I Say "Hello"

Roger Sherman Hired as New Director in July



I am excited to join this great effort, with which all of you are engaged, to prevent child abuse and neglect before it ever occurs. It is quite literally the most important work we could be doing, so I am quite humbled to join you.

For the past 10 years I have been the Program Director for United Vision for Idaho, a multi-issue coalition that works for social and economic justice.

I have worked as a community organizer and lobbyist around issues related to alleviating poverty, making health care accessible, promoting civil and human rights and fair taxation for the past 28 years in Idaho. All of this work in my mind is focused on the future and how changes now will impact our children later. My own children and their well being were definitely an impetus for seeking this job. I have three daughters, Elia who is 11 and twins, Deana and Hallie, who are nearly 4. Elia attends Longfellow Elementary School. My wife, Cathy, and I met in Boise 18 years ago and enjoy both the city amenities and the easy access to outdoor recreation that Idaho offers.

In the two months that I have been on the job I have had the opportunity to visit and learn about several of the fabulous organizations we fund. I look forward to meeting with more of them in the next few months as I make my rounds through Idaho. The Trust Fund's board met in Driggs in July where we work with the Family Safety Network. We got to hear from their director, Suzy Fenger, about the great work they do in this rural and fast changing town. The board also got to hear from Holly Whitworth from Help Inc. in Idaho Falls which is doing some very innovative work teaching parenting skills through English language classes.

Margaret Hower, our incredibly capable grants administrator, and I are planning a "listening tour" throughout Idaho to find out how we are doing and what people want us to do going forward. I am looking forward to hearing what people think about the Trust Fund's work as we make this director transition.

We have recently been chartered as the official Idaho chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America (PCAA), the premier national organization focused on the prevention of child abuse and neglect. We will be calling on all of you to help us speak out on behalf of all of our children. There is an article in this newsletter about our plans for involvement in PCAA.

I am excited about the opportunity working with the Idaho Children's Trust Fund gives me to pursue our mission of strengthening our families and communities to prevent child abuse and neglect. I am excited about working with the Trust Fund's board and all of the talented and dedicated folks who do the work in large and small communities throughout Idaho.

Idaho Children's Trust Fund Board Members

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Retired

Marilyn Giddings

Region II
Retired Educator

Robin Sanchez

Region III
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R. Monte Mac Connell,

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Department of Education
Bureau of Special Education

Executive Director

Roger Sherman
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Grants Manager

Margaret Hower
howerm@dhw.idaho.gov

Prevent Child Abuse Idaho Ready to Roll



**Prevent Child Abuse
Idaho**

a provisional chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America

Idaho Children's Trust Fund Chartered as Idaho Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America

In July, the Children's Trust Fund joined 41 other state organizations working to prevent child abuse and neglect when it became the **official** Idaho chapter of *Prevent Child Abuse America*. As you may know we have been a provisional chapter since 2005. Being a chartered member of *Prevent Child Abuse America* gives us even greater access to information and resources, best practices among peers and a connection to Congress' actions to improve, or denigrate, the lives of children.

"Since 1972, *Prevent Child Abuse America* has led the way in building awareness, providing education and inspiring hope to everyone involved in the effort to prevent the abuse and neglect of our nation's children. Working with [their] chapters, [they] provide leadership to promote and implement prevention efforts at both the national and local levels. With the help of the state chapters and concerned individuals like you [they are] valuing children, strengthening families and engaging communities nationwide."

"[Their] many local programs, prevention initiatives and events help spread the word in your community, creating awareness that prevention is possible. [They] are a family of friends, professionals, volunteers, donors and parents who are preventing child abuse and neglect before it ever starts." (From their website at www.preventchildabuse.org)

At the Trust Fund's annual planning meeting in July, the board members put forward a bold statement: "We want to make child abuse socially unacceptable in the way that smoking has become socially unacceptable over the past 40 years." To do this the board said we must begin by "catalyzing conversations" in every community. It's around the kitchen table, in our churches, civic groups and at our kids' schools that these conversations need to start. Awareness needs to come first before people are willing to take action.

Prevent Child Abuse Idaho will be built at the community level with the regional child abuse awareness groups and local service providers in the lead. We need your help to strengthen the network of people speaking out against child abuse and neglect and speaking up for the things that strengthen families.

Everyone will say that they are against child abuse and neglect but are we doing all we can do to prevent and end it? As an ancient Chinese philosopher, Wang Yang-ming said "To know and not to act is not to know." It is time to act.

**If you are interested in getting involved in a local group, call the Trust Fund
(208)386-9317 or contact us at shermanr@dhw.idaho.gov.**

We are Making a Difference in Children's Lives

From Preston to Sandpoint, the Idaho Children's Trust Fund is supporting projects to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect. We're helping parents learn how to nurture their children and how to deal with the frustrations that inevitably come up for new parents. We're helping to strengthen the quality of child care so that these places, that are so vital in many of kids' lives, become the frontline in preventing child abuse and helping strengthen our families. And we're helping to strengthen the organizations that provide services to families.

**Won't you make a tax deductible contribution to the Idaho Children's Trust Fund
today to support this important work? Thank you!**

Go Online at:

www.idahochildrenstrustfund.idaho.gov

and make a tax deductible donation from \$10 to \$99,999.99 or
send a check to PO Box 2015, Boise, Idaho 83701

Meet Our Fabulous Grantees!

This year we are working with 21 community based programs to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect. All of these programs work at the community level to prevent child abuse and neglect and to insure positive outcomes for children and families.

Cycle One Multi-Year Grantees (2005-2008)

- Shepherd's Home in McCall provides care to families in need, offers parenting education classes in Riggins, Council, Cascade and McCall and has created a resource lending library for parents.
- Help, Inc. El Valor de los Padres, in Idaho Falls offers English as a Second Language classes with the content centered on parenting education.
- Panhandle Health District in Coeur d'Alene and the 5 northern counties has public health nurses that do home parenting education for high risk infant and toddlers.
- Young Children and Family Programs of the Palouse in Moscow offer in-home parent education to families with children up to 13 years in age.
- Families Together for People with Disabilities in Moscow has developed and implemented the Native American Parent Education Project using Traditional Nez Perce tribal stories to teach positive parenting skills.
- Open Arms Baby Boutique in Nampa offers an incentive based parenting education and wellness program for low income families.

Cycle Two Multi Year Grantees (2007-2010)

- The Shoshone Bannock Tribe's Keeping Native Kids Safe Project on the Fort Hall Reservation. Parenting education and family support services will be provided.
- ICARE Children and Family Advocacy Center in Coeur d'Alene will serve fathers with the Nurturing Fathers program and rural residents with Love and Logic classes.
- Mercy Medical Center in Nampa will offer the First Steps for a Healthy Start—Community Outreach Initiative. This program will connect with families of newborns at the Medical Center and then connect them to Nurturing Parenting classes in the community.
- Northern Rocky Mountain Easter Seals—Goodwill Program in the Treasure Valley will offer the Play and Language for Autistic Youngsters Project and provide parenting education for these families.
- Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children will expand the Strengthening Families through Early Care and Education program to reach more child care centers and families throughout Idaho.

Our 2007-2008 Mini Grant Recipients are:

- Parents Reaching Out to Parents in Kootenai County offers a monthly Abuse and Neglect Education and Awareness program for families with a child with disabilities.
- Kellogg School District #391 offers Nurturing Parenting classes in the Silver Valley.
- ICARE Children and Family Advocacy Center offers the Stewards of Children program to prevent child sexual abuse in North Idaho.
- Advocates Against Family Violence, Inc. in Caldwell offers the Developing Capable People parent education classes.
- The Family Place in Ontario will be offering parent education classes and information and referral services to families living in Payette and Weiser.
- Friends of Children and Families, Inc. in Ada county and Elmore county will be offering Parents and Staff: Teaming to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect education program.
- St. Luke's Center for Community Health in the Wood River Valley will offer Familias Saludables/Healthy Families program for Spanish-speaking families.
- The Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation put on the Indian Child Welfare Conference 2007 in Worley.
- Baby Steps Boutique will continue offering incentive based parenting education to low income families in Boise.
- Lemhi's Promise—Mahoney House in Salmon will continue their parent support groups this fall.

SAVE THE DATE!

Strengthening Families Annual Conference April 7 & 8, 2008

The ICTF's annual *Strengthening Families to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect Conference* is scheduled for April 7 and 8, 2008 at the Doubletree Riverside Hotel in Boise. As always we will have nationally recognized experts in the field of prevention plus lots of opportunities for peer to peer learning. We will make information on speakers and workshops available as we confirm them.

Registration is only \$85 for both days and includes lunch and CEU's. Full information and details will be available on our website in January 2008.

Involving Parents in Child Care Strengthens Families

And Improves the Quality of Child Care

A home provider in Wendell meets with parents to decide on a training topic they would all take together; they choose Love and Logic. This same meeting generates parent volunteers to help with breakfast so the provider is available to meet with the other parents in the mornings at drop-off time. Parents in the same program decided to make scrapbooks of each child to sell to parents and grandparents. They designate the money raised to help a family in need, either in the program or not.

A center in Idaho Falls has sponsored a family campout for the last several years, with a maximum number of three families attending. This year's weekend campout has over 11 families committed and registration still open. Families will camp together for a weekend and the center pays for the camping reservation and some food.

This increased parent involvement is a result of the work of the Strengthening Families through Early Care and Education Project, a partnership between the Trust Fund, the Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children and Idaho STARS.

Through this effort we have taught research-proven, strength-based approaches for early care and education professionals to increase protective factors* in families. Research has shown that child care professionals play a key role in assisting families to achieve the best outcomes for children and to prevent child abuse and neglect. Moving to shift the paradigm from strictly child centered day care to family centered care allows providers to build on their unique, positive relationships with families to be a resource for relieving the stress of everyday parenting challenges. Currently we have 22 pilot sites across the state implementing this approach.

**If you would like more information about this work,
please give us a call at 208-386-9317.**

*All of these examples help to build the Five Protective Factors known to reduce child abuse and neglect. The protective factors are:

- 1 — Parental resilience
- 2 — Social connections
- 3 — Knowledge of parenting and child development
- 4 — Concrete support in times of need
- 5 — Social and emotional competence of children.



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October 4 & 5

Hot News!!! Mark Your Calendar
Nurturing Parents Training for Trainers with Dr. Stephen Bavolet

Contact the Trust Fund for further details
at 208.386.9317 or e-mail us at
howerm@dhw.idaho.gov

Now as I go through my day, I pause to reflect about my own actions to see if they are nurturing in focus. I try to catch myself before I make a comment or a critical statement. I want to avoid saying something that is not coming from a place of nurture. When that is the case, I keep my comments to myself, and remind myself of the value of nurturing each other. For me, this self-check of "am I being nurturing" has added value to my life. If I can be

Dr. Bavolet has been a great influence in my life since I heard him speak at the Trust Fund's 2006 conference. He challenged the audience to be nurturing 100% of the time. I would like to pass this challenge on to all of us who care for each other and the lives of children.

suggests, there is nurturing.

"Be nurturing all the time" says Stephen J. Bavolet, PhD, principal author of the Nurturing Parenting Programs, which teaches how to nurture the growth and development of children. In the absence of abuse, Bavolet

The Nurturing Parenting Programs are proven approaches for the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect by developing non-violent parenting beliefs and practices through empathy, self-worth, empowerment, self-awareness, and discipline with dignity. Idaho Children's Trust Fund / Prevent Child Abuse Idaho will be offering training for facilitators in the Nurturing Parenting program this fall.

Please check our website:

www.idahochildrenstrustfund.idaho.gov

or call 208-386-9317 for more information.

A Challenge to "Be Nurturing All the Time"

Margaret Hower, Grants Manager

more caring and positive then the world around me may respond in kind. Truly as we work to end abuse in our world, focusing on the opposite of abuse—nurturing—will serve us well.